

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

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 SS ET 1966 JAN 27 AM 11 23 D/DCI
 G LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JANUARY 27 EX/DIR
 SP DBP
 SAH FRANCOIS MAURIAC, FIGARO COLUMNIST, PUBLICLY RESIGNED YESTER- CS/8
 L DAY AS PRESIDENT OF FRANCE-MAGHREB COMMITTEE. IN SIGNED ARTICLE DCT/DCI
 H IN FIGARO LITTERAIRE. REASON INDICATED IS THAT CERTAIN D.D.I
 AF GAULLISTS ARE NOT ABOVE DISLOYAL ATTITUDE TOWARD DE GAULLE
 TO AND HIS REGIME AS CONCERNS BEN BARKA AFFAIR. AT END HE CANNOT
 P RESIST TEMPTATION OF FACILE INSINUATION THAT CIA SOMEHOW 001/FR2
 INVOLVED. CLOSING PARAGRAPHS FOLLOW: 001/AN/AFI
 USIA THESE BULLETS SHOT FROM OUR OWN RANKS OBLIGE ME TO RESIGN
 NSC AS PRESIDENT OF FRANCE-MAGHREB COMMITTEE, WHICH BEN BARKA
 INR AFFAIR HAS BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE. AS MATTER OF FACT, I WAS
 CIA UNWILLINGLY BROUGHT BACK TO LIKE MYSELF, FORCED TO SIGN,
 NSA THESE LAST FEW DAYS, COMMUNIQUE WHICH I HAD NOT DRAFTED.
 DOD IT IS TRUE THAT I APPROVED THEIR CONTENTS, IN SPIRIT AND IN
 RSR LETTER -- BUT NOT ALL THE INTENTIONS BEHIND THEM. I DO NOT
 WANT PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO BELIEVE THAT I AGREE WITH THOSE
 GAULLISTS WHO, IN ORDER TO FIRE AT THE MINISTERS OF DE GAULLE,
 HAVE WAITED FOR MOMENT OF AMBUSH. BR
 OR R2
 WE
 "YES, AMBUSH. WHO COULD DOUBT IT? EITHER SHORTLY BEFORE OR
 SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION /SIC/ OF BEN BARKA. (I CANNOT
 FIND DATE OF VISIT IN QUESTION). A MOROCCAN FRIEND WHO KNOWS
 WHAT LIES UNDER THE CARDS TALKED TO ME ABOUT CLOSE RELATIONSHIP
 OF GENERAL OUFKIR AND AMERICAN SECRET SERVICES. HOW MUCH
 TRUTH THERE IS IN THIS I DO NOT KNOW. THE FACT REMAINS THAT
 FOR ONCE THESE /AMERICAN/ SERVICES HAVE NOW CARRIED OUT A
 DOUBLE STROKE AGAINST THIRD WORLD IN GETTING RED OF BEN BARKA,
 AND AGAINST DE GAULLE. IF THE AMERICAN SERVICES ARE INNO-CENT
 IN THIS AFFAIR, THEN IT IS THE DEVIL HIMSELF WHO HAS BEEN
 PLAYING ROLE IN THEIR STEAD". CA/12
 CI-2
 FI/INT
 THIS PASSAGE CITED IN TODAY'S FIGARO, JUST ABOVE BOX QUOTING
 DEPARTMENT'S JANUARY 26 DENIAL OF CIA INVOLVEMENT IN BEN
 BARKA AFFAIR. CITED ALSO THIS MORNING IN EUROPE ONE RADIO
 BROADCAST. FI/SP6
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 DO
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 37

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28 JAN 1966

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-2- 4409, JAN 27, FROM PARIS

MY INCLINATION AT THE MOMENT IS NOT TO PROTEST THIS INSIDIOUS INSINUATION. YESTERDAY'S NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR CARRIED AN ACCOUNT OF A MEETING OF LEFTWING GAULLISTS IN MAURIAC'S APARTMENT LAST FRIDAY WITH PICTURE OF MINISTER INTERIOR FREY ARRIVING AT MAURIAC'S ADDRESS. FREY IS QUOTED AS SAYING: "IT IS INDEED NOT IMPOSSIBLE THAT AMERICAN AGENTS OF THE CIA MAY HAVE HAD SOME INFLUENCE IN THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE KIDNAPPING". MAURIAC'S CONTRIBUTION PROBABLY STEMS, THEREFORE, FROM THIS MEETING. MAURIAC IS WIDELY KNOWN AS SORE-HEAD AND CONSEQUENTLY NOT TAKEN FULLY SERIOUSLY. I BELIEVE OUR REPEATED DENIAL AT THIS POINT WOULD SERVE TO KEEP ALIVE A STORY THAT WILL

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OTHERWISE DIE ON ITS OWN. CURRENT TENDENCY IN FRANCE, AS INITIATED READERS RECOGNIZE, IS TO BLAME ALL THINGS ADVERSE ON CIA.

HOWEVER, WE SHALL WATCH THIS PARTICULAR ACCUSATION AND IF IT PERSISTS OR DEVELOPS FURTHER WE SHALL THEN TAKE SUCH STEPS AS SEEM INDICATED TO CONTAIN RUMORS. BOHLEN

BT

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